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REPORT NO

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Paraguay

Possible Coup d'Etat in Paraguay

DATE DISTR.

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SUPPLEMENT TO

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- 1. The Paraguayan political situation continues to be tense, and an outbreak is expected at any time. tempted coup d'etat will be accompanied by bloodshed, since President Natalicio Gonzalez is determined to resist with any force which he can muster, including the 14th Regiment led by Colonel Rogelio Benitez.
- Most of the responsible military leaders, however, among them Colonel Benitez and Lieutenant Colonel Adalberto Canata, have adopted a policy of neutrality. Consequently, the situation will be dominated by the police, which means that Felipe Molas Lopez, Liberato Rodriguez, Chief of Police Narciso Campos, and Commander of the Security Battalion Major Julio Saldivar will direct the outbreak.
- 3. After the coup d'etat, the Democratic Colorados hope to dominate the political scene and have chosen Jose Zacarias Arza, Vice President of the Colorado Party, as their candidate for Provisional President. The Molas Lopez group have chosen as their candidate Augusto Saldivar, the present Minister of Justice and Labor.

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